



CFF @ BSSD

News and notes about Classrooms For the Future at Blairsville-Saltsburg School District

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How has CFF had a positive impact on your teaching or learning?

...I have progressed so much in the technological world. Before this class, aimed in congruence with CFF, I was completely unexposed to relevant innovations. This was extremely problematic for me particularly because I was trying to get into to a premium technologically inclined art conservatory. With only a half year of technological training, I created my portfolio with grace and incredible style, even to myself- which is a statement from a perfectionist. I can only give thanks to the classroom of the future training. It really is an amazing program... - **BSSD Student**

It is extremely helpful to have laptops in the room. I can have the students do impromptu research on topics related to what we are reading in class without having to schedule time in a lab or the library. I can monitor and guide their research, they can print interesting things they find and share then with the class right away. We have used a few audio recordings of poetry and short stories, especially helpful for struggling readers. There are interactive poems on line, where definitions and sound effects are given. Brings reading to life, and makes it more accessible to students. I can also help them write and edit their writing. -**BSSD Teacher**

With these upgrades in our school we can go more in-depth in the subjects we need to learn stuff that is outside our textbook. We learn so much additional informational that we never had access to before. Also we can communicate with fellow classmates much easier. This also is luxury to us because instead of trying to find information with textbooks we can just go straight to the laptops and find it. The cameras and boards are also a great improvement. Our teachers teach us in a new way and it helps me understand the subjects more.—**BSSD Student**

CFF has completely changed the way I learn. Being a senior, part of my high school and middle school careers have been without CFF. By far, the years spent with the CFF technology have greatly benefited me. I use technology at least 6/8 classes daily. Without it, I truly believe that my learning would suffer. It aids in interaction, not only with the educational material, but also with the instructor and peers. The Promethean board was completely vital in creating virtually all of our projects in Technical Writing. I loved learning to use it to the best of my ability and benefit of the class. CFF is vital, not just wanted.

—**BSSD Student**

I have a means now by which I can have my students collaborate even when they are not in the same location (Google.Docs and Wiki sites.) I have a means by which my students can gain contextual knowledge of literature that they study (webquests.) I have a means by which my students can learn editing and revision skills in an interactive manner (Promethean Board.) I have a means by which I can provide supplemental material to help my students assimilate and/or synthesize concepts (Discovery Streaming.) This is huge and we need to perpetuate our grant so that we can continue to afford our students an opportunity to compete in the 21st century.—**BSSD Teacher**

DIDN'T BUDGET FOR A FIELD TRIP? GO VIRTUAL!

- Discuss history through art at the **Smithsonian American Art Museum**
- View and analyze the Constitution at the **National Archives**
- Interview a **United States Representative**
- Learn the culture of Hip Hop or how to Flamenco dance at **The Minnesota Shubert Performing Arts & Education Center**
- Research careers such as Zoo Security with someone from the **Cleveland Metroparks Zoo**
- See why ratios and proportions are important at **NASA Digital Learning Network**
- Find these and other **FREE** videoconferencing / virtual field trip opportunities at www.vccontentproviders.org
- Contact Stacie or Dan if you'd like to use a webcam, the videoconferencing equipment, or if you have questions about videoconferencing.



Student Capitol Day is designed to showcase student projects that address the effective uses of technology to support student achievement. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide the legislators with a glimpse into the creative and innovative work in which your students are engaged!

2009 Student Capitol Day is May 6th, at the Capitol Rotunda in Harrisburg from 10:00am—2:00pm. Please contact Stacie for more information.



Important Dates

PSSA Testing	March 17 – 19
Act 80 Day - Last work day for CFF	March 30
Holiday Break	April 10-13
2009 Student Capitol Day	May 6
CFF Teacher / Student Post Surveys	May 26-27

4 SITES TO SEE AFTER PSSAs :

XTRANORMAL	VIRTUAL MICROSCOPE	FLOWGRAM	NOTA
www.xtranormal.com	http://virtual.itg.uiuc.edu/	www.flowgram.com	http://notaland.com
Create a 3D movie with characters, animations, and your own script in seconds!	Close ups of cells and other cool visuals. Great for science or health classes!	Excellent alternative to Power Point presentations. Add narration, interactivity, and more!	Virtual notebook where students can add images, text, video, and more. Collaboration and sharing feature makes it a great tool for projects!